

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-27 (Canceled).

28. (New) An information displaying apparatus comprising:
a display device having a first display area and a second
display area adjacent to the first display area;

an information storage which stores a plurality of
5 headwords, each having plural word meanings, and explanations of
the plural word meanings of each headword;

a headword searching unit for searching for a headword among
the headwords stored in the information storage;

a headword display control unit for displaying headwords
10 found by the headword searching unit in list form within the
first display area of the display device and for displaying, at
portions corresponding to the respective found headwords,
respective portions of the explanations of the word meanings of
each of the found headwords in list form within the second
15 display area of the display device, each of said portions of the
explanations having a predetermined number of characters derived
from a beginning of the explanation, said predetermined number of
characters being determined such that each of the portions is of
a size that can be displayed within the second display area of
20 the display device;

a headword designating unit for designating one of the headwords displayed in the first display area of the display device by the headword display control unit; and

an explanation display control unit for: (i) when a headword
25 is designated by the headword designating unit, deriving a predetermined number of characters from a beginning of the explanation of each of the word meanings of the designated headword, said predetermined number of characters being
30 determined such that the predetermined number of characters can be displayed within the second display area of the display device, (ii) displaying the predetermined number of characters of the explanations of word meanings of the designated headword in list form within the second display area of the display device, in place of a range of the explanations of the word meanings of
35 the found headwords displayed in the second display area of the display device by the headword display control unit, and
(iii) displaying a frame corresponding to the designated headword so as to surround the designated headword and the predetermined number of characters of each of the explanations of the word
40 meanings of the designated headword.

29. (New) The information displaying apparatus according to claim 28, further comprising:

a designated-headword changing unit for changing the headword designated by the headword designating unit to designate another headword.

30. (New) The information displaying apparatus according to claim 28, further comprising:

an explanation selecting unit for selecting one of the explanations of the word meanings of the headwords displayed on the display device; and

an explanation-selection display control unit for displaying on the display device all contents of the selected explanation.

31. (New) The information displaying apparatus according to claim 28, further comprising:

a search-character input unit for inputting search characters;

wherein, when the search characters entered through the search-character input unit comprise one word, the headword searching unit searches for at least one headword that one of coincides with and includes the one word, among the headwords stored in the information storage;

wherein when the search characters entered through the search-character input unit comprise a plurality of words, the headword searching unit searches for at least one headword that

one of coincides with and includes a predetermined one of the plurality of words, among the headwords stored in the information storage; and

wherein the information displaying apparatus further comprises:

a first search-character judging unit for judging whether or not the search characters comprising the plurality of words are included in the explanations of the word meanings of the headwords displayed in list form by the headword display control unit; and

a highlight control unit for, when the first search-character judging unit determines that an explanation of a word meaning of at least one of the headwords includes the search characters comprising the plurality of words, displaying the one of the headwords in a different way from other displayed headwords.

32. (New) The information displaying apparatus according to claim 31, further comprising:

a headword selecting unit for selecting one of the headwords displayed on the display device by the headword display control unit;

a selected-headword explanation display control unit for displaying entire contents of the explanations of the word meanings of the headword selected by the headword selecting unit;

10 a search-character searching unit for locating a portion of at least one of the explanations of the word meaning displayed by the selected-headword explanation display control unit, that includes the search characters comprising the plurality of words; and

15 a search-character highlight display control unit for displaying the portion of the explanation of the word meaning located by the search-character searching unit in a different manner from other displayed portions.

33. (New) The information displaying apparatus according to claim 31, further comprising:

5 a second search-character judging unit for judging whether or not the search characters comprising the plurality of words are included in the explanations of the word meanings of the designated headword displayed by the explanation display control unit; and

10 an explanation highlight display control unit for, when the second search-character judging unit determines that at least one of the explanations of a word meaning of the designated headword includes the search characters comprising the plurality of words,

displaying the one of the explanations in a different way from other explanations.

34. (New) The information displaying apparatus according to claim 30, further comprising:

a search-character input unit for inputting search characters;

5 wherein, when the search characters entered through the search-character input unit comprise one word, the headword searching unit searches for at least one headword that one of coincides with and includes the one word, among the headwords stored in the information storage;

10 wherein, when the search characters entered through the search-character input unit comprise a plurality of words, the headword searching unit searches for at least one headword that one of coincides with and includes a predetermined one of the plurality of words, among the headwords stored in the information
15 storage; and

wherein the information displaying apparatus further comprises:

a search-character searching unit for locating a portion of one of the explanations of a word meaning displayed by the
20 explanation display control unit, that includes the search characters comprising the plurality of words; and

a search-character highlight display control unit for displaying the portion of the explanation located by the search-character searching unit in a different manner from other displayed portions.

35. (New) The information displaying apparatus according to claim 31, wherein the first search-character judging unit replaces placeholder data contained in the explanations to be judged with a predetermined one of the plurality of words entered via the search-character input unit, and judges whether or not the entered search characters comprising the plurality of words are included in the explanations with the placeholder data replaced with the predetermined word.

36. (New) The information displaying apparatus according to claim 32, wherein the search-character searching unit replaces placeholder data contained in the explanations to be judged with a predetermined one of the plurality of words entered via the search-character input unit, and locates a portion that includes the entered search characters comprising the plurality of words in the explanations with the placeholder data replaced with the predetermined word.

37. (New) The information displaying apparatus according to claim 34, wherein the search-character searching unit replaces placeholder data contained in the explanations to be judged with a predetermined one of the plurality of words entered via the search-character input unit, and locates a portion that includes the entered search characters comprising the plurality of words in the explanations with the placeholder data replaced with the predetermined word.

38. (New) A computer readable recording medium storing a computer program that is executable by a computer to cause the computer to perform an information displaying procedure, wherein the computer is installed in an information displaying apparatus which includes a display device having a first displaying area and a second displaying area adjacent to the first displaying area and an information storage which stores a plurality of headwords, each having plural word meanings, and explanations of the plural word meanings of each headword, said computer program causing the computer to function as units comprising:

a headword searching unit for searching for a headword among the headwords stored in the information storage;

a headword display control unit for displaying headwords found by the headword searching unit in list form within the first display area of the display device and for displaying, at

portions corresponding to the respective found headwords,
respective portions of the explanations of the word meanings of
each of the found headwords in list form within the second
display area of the display device, each of said portions of the
20 explanations having a predetermined number of characters derived
from a beginning of the explanation, said predetermined number of
characters being determined such that each of the portions is of
a size that can be displayed within the second display area of
the display device;

25 a headword designating unit for designating one of the
headwords displayed in the first display area of the display
device by the headword display control unit; and

an explanation display control unit for: (i) when a headword
is designated by the headword designating unit, deriving a
30 predetermined number of characters from a beginning of the
explanation of each of the word meanings of the designated
headword, said predetermined number of characters being
determined such that the predetermined number of characters can
be displayed within the second display area of the display
35 device, (ii) displaying the predetermined number of characters of
the explanations of word meanings of the designated headword in
list form within the second display area of the display device,
in place of a range of the explanations of the word meanings of
the found headwords displayed in the second display area of the

40 display device by the headword display control unit, and
(iii) displaying a frame corresponding to the designated headword
so as to surround the designated headword and the predetermined
number of characters of each of the explanations of the word
meanings of the designated headword.

39. (New) An information displaying apparatus comprising:
a display device;

an information storage which stores a plurality of
headwords, each having plural word meanings, and explanations of
5 plural word meanings of each headword;

a search-character input unit for entering a word series
including a plurality of words;

a keyword determining unit for selecting one of a verb, an
adjective, and a noun from the word series and determining the
10 selected word as a keyword;

a first headword searching unit for searching for the
keyword among the headwords stored in the information storage to
find at least one headword corresponding to the keyword;

an explanation judging unit for judging whether or not the
15 word series is included in at least one of the explanations of
the at least one headword found by the first headword searching
unit; and

20 a searched-information display unit for, when the
explanation judging unit determines that the word series is
included in at least one of the explanations of the at least one
headword found by the first headword searching unit, displaying
the explanation on the display device as including the word
series together with the corresponding headword.

40. (New) The information displaying apparatus according to
claim 39, wherein when the explanation judging unit determines
that the word series is included in at least one of the
explanations of the headword found by the first headword
5 searching unit, the searched-information display unit displays
the headword and portions of the explanations of the headword in
correlation with the headword.

41. (New) The information displaying apparatus according to
claim 39, further comprising:

5 an other-keyword selecting unit for selecting a keyword to
be searched for other than the keyword determined by the keyword
determining unit, when the explanation judging unit determines
that the word series is not included in the explanations of the
headword found by the first headword searching unit.

42. (New) The information displaying apparatus according to claim 39, further comprising:

a second headword searching unit for searching for the entire word series among the headwords stored in the information storage;

wherein, when the explanation judging unit determines that the word series is included in one of the explanations, the searched-information display unit displays the explanation together with the corresponding headword on the display device, and displays the headword comprising the word series found by the second headword searching unit together with the corresponding explanations on the display device.

43. (New) The information displaying apparatus according to claim 39, wherein the explanation judging unit replaces placeholder data of included in the explanations of the headword found by the first headword searching unit with one word selected to be searched for from among the words of the word series, and judges whether or not the word series is included in the explanations with the placeholder data replaced with the selected word.

44. (New) The information displaying apparatus according to claim 43, wherein, when the explanation judging unit determines

that one of the explanations includes the word series, the
searched-information display unit replaces the placeholder data
5 included in the explanation with the selected word, and displays
the explanation with the placeholder data replaced with the
selected word together with the corresponding headword on the
display device.

45. (New) The information displaying apparatus according to
claim 39, further comprising:

a headword selecting unit for selecting one of a plurality
of headwords displayed on the display device by the searched-
5 information display unit when the first headword searching unit
finds a plurality of headwords;

a selected-headword explanation display control unit for
displaying the entire contents of the explanations of the
selected headword;

10 a search-character searching unit for locating a portion of
at least one of the explanations displayed by the selected-
headword explanation display control unit, that includes the word
series; and

15 a search-character highlight display control unit for
displaying the portion of the explanation located by the search-
character searching unit in a different manner from other
displayed portions.

46. (New) The information displaying apparatus according to claim 45, wherein, when the explanation judging unit determines that at least one of the explanations of the at least one headword found by the first headword searching unit includes the word series, the searched-information display unit displays the explanation on the display device a one of a sample mark and a phrase mark added thereto, together with the corresponding headword.

47. (New) A computer readable recording medium storing a computer program that is executable by a computer to cause the computer to perform an information displaying procedure, wherein the computer is installed in an information displaying apparatus which includes a display device and an information storage which stores a plurality of headwords, each having plural word meanings, and explanations of the plural word meanings of each headword, said computer program causing the computer to function as units comprising:

a search-character input unit for entering a word series including a plurality of words;

a keyword determining unit for selecting one of a verb, an adjective, and a noun from the word series and determining the selected word as a keyword;

15 a first headword searching unit for searching for the
keyword among the headwords stored in the information storage to
find at least one headword corresponding to the keyword;
 an explanation judging unit for judging whether or not the
word series is included in the explanations of the headword found
20 by the first headword searching unit; and
 a searched-information display unit for, when the
explanation judging unit determines that the word series is
included in at least one of the explanations of the headword
found by the first headword searching unit, displaying the
25 explanation on the display device as including the word series
together with the corresponding headword.